

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 – 43 (Cancelled)

44. (Currently Amended) An isolated oxidoreductase comprising the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 9 and having the enzymatic activity for catalyzing the reduction of which reduces a carbonyl compound to the corresponding (S)-hydroxy compound in the presence of NADH and water, wherein more than 70% of the amino acids is identical to the amino acid sequence SEQ ID NO: 9 and wherein it has a specific activity of more than 1 μ mol per mg protein, based on the reaction of the ethyl-4-chloro-3-oxobutanoic acid (R)-ethyl-4-chloro-3hydroxybutanoic acid.

45. (Currently Amended) ~~The isolated~~An isolated oxidoreductase ~~according to claim 44~~encoded by a nucleic acid that hybridizes to SEQ ID NO: 8 or its fully complementary strand under stringent conditions (comprising washing with 0.1 x SSC solution at 65°C), said oxidoreductase having the enzymatic activity for catalyzing the reduction of a carbonyl compound to the corresponding (S)-hydroxy compound in the presence of NADH and water, wherein its has a specific activity of more than 1 μ mol per mg protein based on the reaction of ethyl-4-chloro-3-oxobutanoic acid to (R)-ethyl-4-choro-3-hydroxybutanoic acid. 80% to 99.5%, in particular 90% to 99.5 %, especially 99% to 99.5%, are amino acids identical to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 9.

46. (Currently amended) The isolated oxidoreductase according to claim ~~[[44]]~~ 45, ~~wherein it is encoded by a DNA[] sequence according to SEQ ID NO: 8 comprising an amino acid sequence having more than 70% homology with the and has the amino acid sequence according to represented by SEQ ID NO: 9.~~

47. (Currently amended) The isolated oxidoreductase according to claim 44 or claim 45, wherein it is obtainable from yeasts of the genres Pichia or Candida, in particular from Pichia capsulata.

48. (Currently amended) The isolated oxidoreductase according to claim 44, wherein it has 80% to 99.5%, in particular 90% to 99.5%, especially 99% to 99.5%, homology with an additional amount of 1 to 40 amino acids less than the oxidoreductase having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 9.

49. (Cancelled)

50. (Currently amended) The isolated oxidoreductase according to claim 44, wherein it ~~has the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 9 and~~ is modified once, twice, three, four or five times by a water-soluble polymer.

51. (Previously presented) The isolated oxidoreductase according claim 50, wherein the water-soluble polymer is polyethylene glycol.

52 - 55 (Cancelled)